



November 5, 2002

Mr. Duc Nguyen, OSC On-Scene Coordinator USEPA Region 8 Emergency Response Program 501 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923

SUBJECT:

Soil Disposal Criteria Sampling - BNSF Libby

Railyard Biotite Removal, Libby, Montana

EMR Project No. 5539.003-1

Dear Mr. Nguyen,

Per your request, this letter is written to address our sampling plan for collecting soil samples to profile soil prior to transport to the Lincoln County Landfill in Libby, Montana.

In an October 23, 2002 meeting at the EPA Information Center in Libby, MT, a concern was raised regarding soil disposal at the Lincoln County landfill. Ron Anderson (in attendance at the meeting) of Lincoln County stated that because the landfill was not designed to take other wastes besides asbestos, we would need to contact Mr. Pat Crowley of Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to determine soil testing requirements for landfill disposal.

Upon contacting Mr. Pat Crowley, we presented our sampling plan as follows:

East of the Overpass:

East of the highway overpass, that bisects the railyard we proposed to collect four (4) discrete samples for each track with visible hydrated biotite. Each track would have it's own composite sample that would consist of a portion of each discrete sample. Based on the four tracks (Track 1 through Track 4) affected, this amounted to 16 discrete samples and four composites.

West of the Overpass

West of the highway overpass we proposed to collect four (4) discrete samples for each track with visible hydrated biotite. Again, each track would have it's own composite sample that would consist of a portion of each discrete sample. Based on three tracks

affected (Tracks 2 through 4), this amounted to 12 discrete samples and three composites.

Montana DEQ Requirements for Soil Disposal Characterization

After briefing Mr. Crowley on our sampling plan, he stated that Montana DEQ would require three sets of analyses:

- 1) RCRA 8 Metals
- 2) TPH (to include gasoline, diesel and oil range)
- 3) And Volatiles by EPA 8260.

All of the composites would have required analyses for RCRA 8 Metals and TPH. Half of the composites would have required analyses for volatiles by EPA 8260. If any constituents were identified in the composite samples above action levels, then additional analyses would be required to include semi-volatile organics and PCBs. Also, if composite results indicate any elevated concentrations of the analytes tested, the discrete samples will be tested.

Attached are DRAFT site drawings (Figure 1 and Figure 2) that show the approximate locations of the soil disposal characterization samples.

This soil disposal characterization plan meets with Lincoln County and Montana DEQ approval on this project. If you have any questions after reviewing our soil disposal characterization plan, please call me at (800) 275-3516.

Best Regards,

David L. Welch

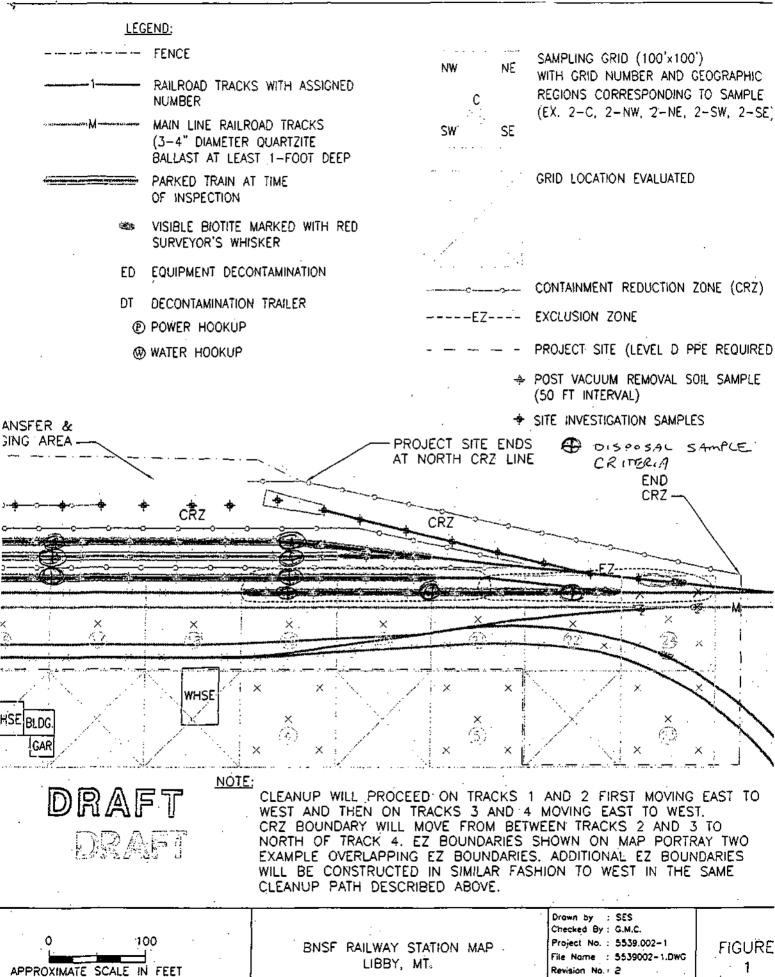
cc:

Project Geologist

Dave Smith, BNSF; Don Clabaugh EMR

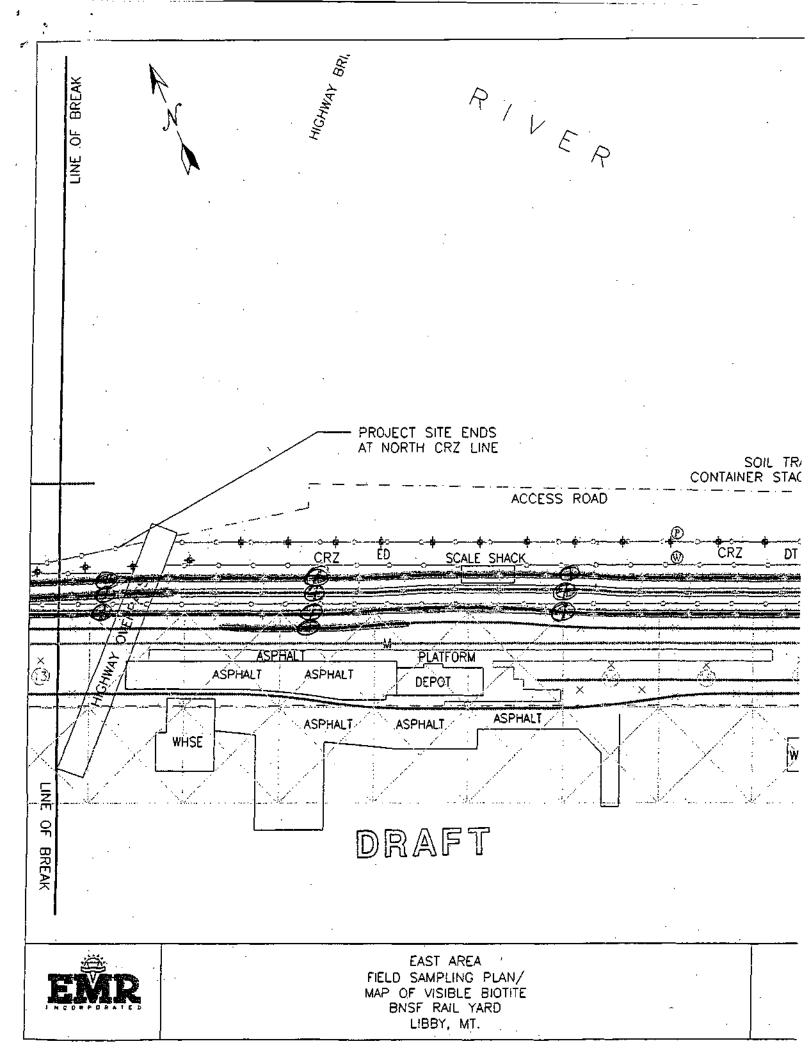
attachments: Figure 1-East Area BNSF Rail Yard Sampling Plan-DRAFT

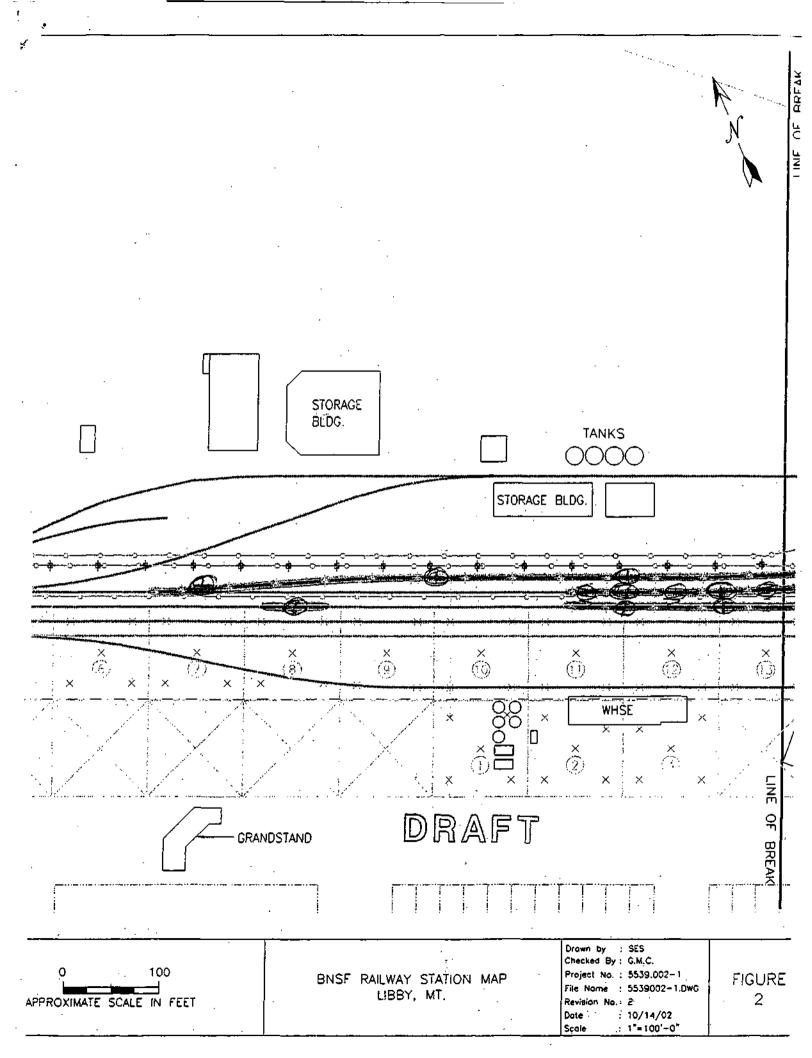
Figure 2 – West Area BNSF Rail Yard Sampling Plan-DRAFT



: 10/14/02

Date





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WEST AREA
FIELD SAMPLING PLAN/
MAP OF VISIBLE BIOTITE
BNSF RAIL YARD
LIBBY, MT.